

PATENT

DOCKET NO. EL-4450-G

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: **Gerrits, et al.**

Art Unit: **2841**

Serial No: **Not Yet Assigned**

Examiner: **J.Gandhi**

Filed: **Concurrently Herewith**

For: **ELECTRONIC CARD**

27 July 2001

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examining the above-referenced patent application, please amend said application as follows. This amendment cancels claims being prosecuted in this application's parent case and does not represent a disclaimer or waiver of the claimed subject matter.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-39.

Please add the following claims:

40. (Newly Added) In an electronic card assembly, wherein the improvement comprises said card rotating to an angle of less than approximately 12° during a torque test which applies a torque of greater than approximately 1.2 N-m.

41. (Newly Added) The electronic card assembly as recited in claim 40, wherein

the electronic card assembly does not include a printed circuit board during the torque test.

42. (Newly Added) In an electronic card assembly, wherein the improvement comprises said card deflecting less than approximately 3.5mm during the PCMCIA bend test which applies a force of approximately 20N.

43. (Newly Added) The electronic card assembly as recited in claim 42, wherein the electronic card assembly does not include a printed circuit board during the PCMCIA bend test.

44. (Newly Added) In an electronic card assembly, wherein the improvement comprises said card displacing less than approximately 1.5mm during a fingernail test which applies a force of more than approximately 100N.

45. (Newly Added) The electronic card assembly as recited in claim 44, wherein the electronic card assembly does not include a printed circuit board during the fingernail test.- -

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

In the Title of the Invention (page 1, line 1), after "CARD" insert therein - - ASSEMBLY AND SHELL THEREFOR- -.

On page 11, last line, delete "MTV" and insert therein - -MTB- -.

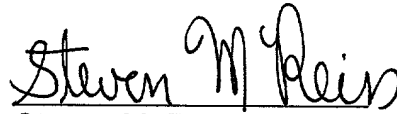
On page 12, line 13, delete "EMI EST" and insert therein - -EMI/ESD- -.

Add an Abstract as provided on the following separate sheet:

- Abstract

An electronic card and the shell for the electronic card. The shell comprises a pair of mateable, hermaphroditic shield assemblies, include having a shield with latch structure to engage corresponding latch structure on the other shield; and a bar extending along an edge of the shield. The shell could also comprise a pair of mateable, conductive shield assemblies arranged so that the shell essentially encloses the printed circuit board for shielding. The electronic card assembly rotates to an angle of less than approximately 12° during a torque test applying a torque of greater than approximately 1.2 N-m; deflects less than approximately 3.5mm during a PCMCIA bend test applying a force of approximately 20N; and displaces less than approximately 1.5mm during a fingernail test applying a force of more than approximately 100N. Such test performance is achieved even without a printed circuit board in the electronic card assembly.- -

Respectfully submitted,

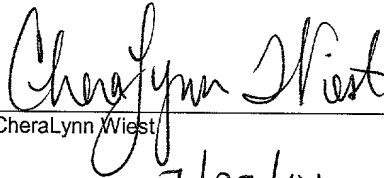


Steven M. Reiss
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 37,519

Attorney Docket No. **4450G**

FCI USA, Inc.
Intellectual Property Law Department
825 Old Trail Road
Etters, PA 17319
Telephone (717) 938-7514

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being filed
under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 utilizing the "Express Mail Post
Office to Addressee" addressed to the
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231 on 27 July 2001.
Express Mail Label No. EL158517666US



CheraLynn Wiest

7/27/01

Date of Signature